(d) to (f) As per the projections made by the Working Group on Iron and Steel for the IX Five year Plan set up by Planning Commission the production of finished steel will reach 38.01 million tonnes by 2001.02, the terminal year of IX Five Year Plan. To help the industry achieve the above target, Government has taken several steps to boost the demand for steel which inter-alia include:—

— Orienting product-mix to suit the market requirements and adjusting production in tune with change in the market demand.

— Developing and nourishing long term customers relationship by entering into MOUs/supply arrangement with the customers.

— A "Steel Exporters Forum' has been set up to help steel exporters to overcome bottlenecks in exports.

— To boost the demand and consumption of steel, the Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel (DCI&S) has launched a national campaign for increasing the demand for steel, especially in non-traditional sectors such as rural and agro based industrial sector.

— Rationalisation of Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) rates for steel exports have been carried out to boost exports.

— An empowered Committee has been set up to examine & assist specific Research & Development Projects to improve technology for Steel making & enhance quality of Indian Steel.

Package for Restructuring of SAIL

1155. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved a package for Rs. 8454 crore for restructuring of ailing Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) whether Government have waived Rs. 5,703 crore loan from the Steel Development Fund and another Rs. 381 crore borrowed from Centre;

(c) whether government will extend guarantees to enable SAIL to borrow from market Rs. 1,500 crore and another Rs. 1,500 crore to repay burden of its debt during 1999-2000;

(d) whether SAIL has also been allowed to start soon disinvesting its shares in certain plants;

(e) if so, what are the names and details thereof; and

(f) whether similar package is available in respect of other loss making Government undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (e) The details of financial and business restructuring package for SAIL approved by the Government are as under:—

(i) Financial restructuring of SAIL by waiving of loans advanced to it from Steel Development Fund to a value of Rs. 5073 crore and Rs. 381 crore from the Govt. of India.

(ii) Provision of Government guarantees with 50% interest subsidy for loan and interest thereon of Rs. 1500 crore to be raised by SAIL from the market to finance reduction in manpower through Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

(iii) Provision of Government guarantee for loan and interest thereon of Rs. 1500 crore to be raised by SAIL from the market primarily for meeting repayment obligation on past loans during 1999-2000.

(iv) To initiate the process of disinvestment of following non-core assets while protecting jobs of existing employees

— Power Plants at Bokaro, Durgapur and Rourkela

— 2x60 MW Captive power plant-II at Rourkela Steel and Plant the Central Power Training Institute at Rourkela

— 2x50 MW Captive power plant-II at Durgapur Steel Plant

— 122 MW (2x55 MW+12 MW back pressure turbine) Captive Power Plant-I, 3x60 MW Captive Power Plant-II and steam generating capacity of 660 MT/hour at Bokaro Steel Plant

— Oxygen Plant-II of Bhilai Steel Plant

— Salem Steel Plant (SSP), Salem

— Alloy Steel Plant (ASP), Durgapur

— Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant (VISL), Bhadravati

— Fertiliser Plant at Rourkela

(v) Allowing SAIL to have a minority shareholding in any joint venture comtemplated for revival of Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO).

(f) The revival packages for Government undertakings vary from case to case.

Setting up of Steel Plants in Orissa

1156. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up some steel plants in the State of Orissa is pending with Government;

(b) if so, the number of steel plants proposed to be set up in that State;

(c) the sites selected for the purpose; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the establishment of those steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Workers' Participation in Management

1157. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's policy on workers' participation in management in the public sector steel plants of the country; and

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard and to set up a proper consultative machinery with the trade unions of public sector steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) The Government's policy on workers' participation in management was notified by Ministry of Labour on 30.12.83. In the public sector steel plants, a well established system of workers' participation in management has been in existence since the early 1970's. This system, which operates at both formal and informal levels, has led to peaceful and harmonious industrial relations in the public sector steel industry. The formal system operates at 5 levels, viz., National, Corporate, Plant, Zonal and Shop Floor levels.